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Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Thematic cluster III: United Nations Support Mission in Libya

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report contains the proposed additional resource requirements for 2014 for the United Nations Support Mission in Libya in an amount of $22,793,200 net ($23,204,400 gross).

The General Assembly is requested to approve an additional amount of $22,793,200 net ($23,204,400 gross) proposed for the Mission and to approve charging the same amount against the provision for special political missions appropriated under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

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I. United Nations Support Mission in Libya

($22,793,200)

Background, mandate and objective

1. Following an initial pre-assessment, the Secretary-General, in a letter to the President of the Security Council dated 7 September 2011 (S/2011/542), proposed the establishment of an integrated United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) in a phased manner. UNSMIL was granted a three-month mandate under Security Council resolution 2009 (2011), designed to allow the United Nations to strengthen its understanding of the Libyan context and propose a longer-term presence following observations from field-based analysis and engagement with the Libyan leadership and civil society. Owing to the delay in establishing a new Government, that mandate was extended for an additional three months through Security Council resolution 2022 (2011).

2. An integrated mission planning process was undertaken under the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, following the formation of the interim Government on 22 November 2011. The outcome was outlined in the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 1 March 2012 (S/2012/129). On 12 March 2012, by its resolution 2040 (2012), the Council endorsed the proposals of the Secretary-General and extended the mandate of UNSMIL for 12 months.

3. On 14 March 2013, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNSMIL for a further period of 12 months, by resolution 2095 (2013), in which the Council decided that UNSMIL should, in full accordance with principles of national ownership, assist the Government of Libya to define national needs and priorities throughout Libya, to match those with offers of strategic and technical advice where appropriate and to support Libyan efforts in the following areas: (a) democratic transition, including the electoral and constitution-drafting processes, while ensuring political participation of all Libyans; (b) promotion of the rule of law and monitoring and protection of human rights, particularly those of women and vulnerable groups such as children, minorities and migrants, including through support for the development and implementation of a comprehensive transitional justice strategy; (c) public security, through effective national security coordination, the demobilization, integration or reintegration of ex-combatants and the development of defence, police and security institutions; (d) countering illicit proliferation of arms, clearing explosive remnants of war and securing and managing the borders of Libya; and (e) capacity-building through coordination of international assistance to build government capacity across all sectors of the UNSMIL mandate.

4. On 14 March 2014, the Security Council again extended the mandate of UNSMIL for a further period of 12 months, by resolution 2144 (2014). Through this resolution, the Council decided that UNSMIL should work within its existing mandate to support the Government of Libya, as an immediate priority, to ensure the transition to democracy through support to the national dialogue, constitution drafting, electoral processes and facilitation of political dialogue through the provision of good offices; control unsecured arms and related materiel in Libya and counter their proliferation; and build governance capacity as part of a coordinated international effort.

Revised planning assumptions for 2014

5. The future of the UNSMIL presence will continue to be determined by a range of factors, including the number of requests by the Libyan authorities, potential changes to the timeline of the political transition, the maintenance of public order through the integration of revolutionary fighters and institution-building, and the evolution of the human rights situation, as well as any extension of the mandate by the Security Council.

6. The major foreseeable developments remain the same as stipulated by the Secretary-General in the proposed budget for 2014 (A/68/327/Add.3). However, the security situation in Libya continued to deteriorate in early 2014, and the national armed forces remain, as yet, unable to provide adequate protection to United Nations staff and premises. Threats emanating from armed clashes between rival armed groups, activities of extremists as well as general criminality as a result of a vacuum in law and order remain high.

7. In October 2013, the Department of Political Affairs, in consultation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL, deployed a joint directors' mission to Libya. The mission included directors from the Department of Field Support, the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Safety and Security and the United Nations Development Programme. The mission aimed to take stock of UNSMIL and its ability to deliver its mandate in the changing and challenging Libyan context. Of paramount importance was an evaluation of the new security dynamics at play in Libya and the safety and security of staff. The joint directors' mission confirmed the urgent need to implement measures that enhance the protection of United Nations personnel and installations, especially in the light of the lack of reliable national security forces. Based on an assessment of the prevailing threats and risks for United Nations personnel and premises, the findings of the joint directors' mission and consultations within the senior management of the Secretariat, several options were considered to improve security for the staff in Libya.

8. The first option was a United Nations guard unit to enhance security arrangements. Such a guard unit would provide perimeter security and access control for United Nations facilities and installations in Tripoli. The guard unit would also be able to assist in the relocation of United Nations personnel under imminent threat of physical violence to safer locations.

9. In this regard, the Secretariat developed plans for the deployment of a United Nations guard unit comprising military units, provided as contingents by Member States, to form part of UNSMIL. Based on the recommendation of a reconnaissance team dispatched to Tripoli, the Secretary-General proposed to the Security Council on 21 November 2013 the establishment of a guard unit consisting of up to 235 military personnel mandated to guard and protect the UNSMIL compound and United Nations personnel and properties therein (S/2013/704). The President of the Security Council took note of the Secretary-General's letter on 27 November 2013 (S/2013/705).

10. The need to provide security for staff and premises in Tripoli remains an urgent priority. However, the deployment of a United Nations guard unit, while an appropriate mechanism to perform the tasks required, proved to be unfeasible in the current political and security circumstances in the country.

11. A second option was to contract an armed private security company to perform the functions of the guard unit as described above. Taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 67/254, in which the Assembly recommended that the United Nations proceed with the recruitment of an armed private security company only as a last resort and when other alternatives, including protection by the host country, other support from Member States or internal United Nations system resources, are inadequate, this option was not pursued.

12. In the light of these developments, pursuant to the Secretary-General's letter and increased concerns for the safety of the civilian staffing complement, it is proposed to strengthen and restructure the Security Section of UNSMIL to increase its ability to provide security for the Mission and its staff. The strengthened Security Section will provide static security for the UNSMIL headquarters compound, and it will maintain a capacity to deploy quick reaction forces to extract United Nations personnel under imminent threat from surrounding locations. Details regarding the additional resources for 2014 for the strengthening of the Security Section, as well as the associated strengthening of the Mission Support Division, are outlined below.

Security requirements

13. Following the deterioration of the security situation in Libya and in order to enhance the security of its civilian staff members residing and working in the Mission headquarters compound, it is proposed to strengthen the Security Section with an additional 80 positions (1 P-4, 4 P-3, 75 Field Service) and logistical resources:

- One Chief Security Officer (P-4) and four Security Officers (P-3) (July-December);
- Augmentation of the existing units within the Security Section to allow for enhanced security response for the Sabha and Benghazi duty stations, by 20 Security Officer positions (Field Service) (February-December);
- Establishment of a Compound Security Unit of 45 Security Officers (Field Service) (July-December), including four handlers for a K-9 Section composed of two explosives sniffers and two guard dog detachments;
- Establishment of a Quick Response Team of 10 highly qualified Security Officers (Field Service) (July-December);
- Various items of equipment, including armoury containers, canine equipment, weapons and ammunitions, closed circuit television monitoring systems, and surveillance detection equipment.

Mission support staffing and operational requirements

14. With the proposed strengthening of the UNSMIL Security Section by 80 additional Security Officers, the Mission's international staffing complement would increase by approximately 46 per cent, and its total staffing complement would increase by approximately 28 per cent. In order to support this significant change in size and operations, it is proposed that the UNSMIL Mission Support Division also be strengthened to meet the new requirements.

15. It is proposed to establish 15 additional Mission Support Division positions in four sections (Personnel, Finance, Central Warehouse and Distribution, and

Transport and Movement Control). Nine of the proposed 15 additional positions are local level positions proposed for the Transport and Movement Control Section to perform the functions of Drivers and Mechanics.

16. The main elements of the additional resource proposal for mission support are as follows:

- Up to 20 Security Officers have been deploying to UNSMIL starting February 2014, with the remaining 60 Security Officers expected to deploy to UNSMIL starting 1 July 2014;
- UNSMIL will acquire 17 additional accommodation facilities in the Mission headquarters compound;
- In addition to the additional accommodation facilities, UNSMIL will construct prefabricated facilities for accommodation and office space in compliance with the United Nations standard rates and ratios. The proposed resources include associated equipment, facilities, maintenance services, utilities and construction services;
- The additional resource proposal includes the provision for the rental of land for the accommodation and offices locations;
- It is proposed to upgrade and replace the Mission's VHF radio communications network with Tetra Trunking Network, which also includes a global positioning system tracking feature. VHF systems are being replaced throughout the United Nations system as recommended by the Information and Communications Technology Division of the Department of Field Support, to ensure communication safety;
- The proposed additional resources also include various equipment and supplies, including: firefighting equipment, including detection devices and alarms; field defence supplies; 15 armoured vehicles, one ambulance, and one forklift; vehicle workshop equipment; satellite and mobile phones and handheld radios; and computing devices.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 1
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Initial appropriation 2014	*Additional requirements*	*Non-recurrent requirements*	*Total requirements 2014*
Category of expenditure	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)*	*(4)=(1)+(2)*
Civilian personnel costs	28 528.9	8 673.2	–	37 202.1
Operational costs	18 152.6	14 120.0	10 014.3	32 272.6
Total requirements	**46 681.5**	**22 793.2**	**10 014.3**	**69 474.7**

17. The estimated additional requirements for 2014 amount to $22,793,200 net ($23,204,400 gross). These resources would provide for 84 international staff positions (1 P-4, 4 P-3, 79 Field Service) ($8,004,900), 9 national staff positions (Local level) ($596,800), two United Nation Volunteers ($71,500), official travel

($130,400), facilities and infrastructure ($7,260,900), ground transportation ($2,692,200), communications ($1,809,300), information technology ($830,000), medical ($151,900), and other supplies, services and equipment ($1,245,300).

Table 2
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officers*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2014	1	1	3	8	11	39	40	1	**104**	69	1	**174**	33	79	4	**290**
Proposed revised staffing level	1	1	3	8	11	40	44	1	**109**	148	1	**258**	33	88	6	**385**
Change	–	–	–	–	–	**1**	**4**	–	**5**	**79**	–	**84**	–	**9**	**2**	**95**

18. A total of 95 new positions are proposed for UNSMIL, comprising 80 positions for security, and 15 positions for administrative and logistical mission support functions. The proposed additional positions are distributed across the various offices as follows: 80 positions for the Security Section (1 P-4, 4 P-3, 75 Field Service), two positions for the Personnel Section (1 Field Service, 1 United Nations Volunteer), two positions for the Finance Section (1 Field Service, 1 United Nations Volunteer), one position for the Central Warehouse and Distribution Section (1 Field Service), and 10 positions for the Transport and Movement Control Section (1 Field Service, 9 Local level). All 95 positions will be based in Tripoli.

II. Action required of the General Assembly

19. **The General Assembly is requested:**

(a) **To approve the additional resources for 2014 in the total amount of $22,793,200 (net of staff assessment) for UNSMIL as presented in the present report;**

(b) **To approve a charge totalling $22,793,200 against the provision for special political missions appropriated under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.**